प्राथमिकता के आधार पर इन योजनाओं को स्वीकृति देकर उनके कार्यान्वयन हेतु केन्द्रीय सहायता उपलब्ध करने का विचार रखता है ?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री के.गेररान नायडू): (क) जी हां।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश राज्य सरकार ने वैज्ञानिक पद्धतियों से जल संरक्षण और रिचार्ज उपायों के लिए राजीव गांधी वाटरशेड मिशन स्थापित किया है। यह कार्य 340 विकास खंडों के 2000 गांवों के 440 मिनी वाटरशेडों में किया गया है। इन योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत भूमिगत जल भंडार को रिचार्ज किया जाएगा जिससे इन क्षेत्रों में पेयजल आपूर्ति को बनाए रखने में मदद मिलेगी।

(ग) जी हां।

(घ) राज्य सरकार से परियोजनाओं को संशोधित करने का अनुरोध किया गया है।

Creation of Tariff Authority for Major Ports

*546. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Tariff Authority for Major Ports has been created;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its functions;

(c) the recurring expenditure on the chairperson and other members of the Authority; and

(d) the rate of tariff growth through the ports expected in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Tariff Authority for Major Ports has been created with effect from the 10th of April, 1997. The Tariff Authority for Major Ports has a Chairman and two part-time Members. The funtions of the Authority are to frame the scale of rates for services and property in the Major Ports in India.

(c) The recurring expenditure on the pay all allowances to the Chairperson and other Members of the Authority including expenditure on establishment is likely to be Rs. 30.00 lakhs per annum.

(d) The tariff growth would depend on the increase in traffic and also the rate of inflation.

Premature Retirement of Defence Personnel

*547. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Army/Air Force had sent out in 1986, 1987 and 1988 some able serving officers to take up different Public Sector Undertakings on permanent absorption basis till the age of superannuation;

(b) whether some of such incumbents are now being asked to retire much before the age of superannuation despite excellent records of service;

(c) whether Government would intervene immediately to extend protection to such officers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) Army/Air Force Officers can take up assignments in various Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) either on deputation or on permanent absorption basis. If selected on deputation basis, the terms and conditions of deputation are as decided by the Government. Alternatively, they are required to seek premature retirement from Army/Air Force Service. This is purely on voluntary basis and no officer has been sent to join a PSU against his willingness. Once an officer of the Army/Air Force joins a PSU on